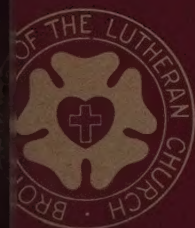


LUTHERAN MEN



"Christ is risen! Alleluia!"



Volume 32

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Contents

The Cross of Christ	page 5
President's Message	page 5
News	page 6
Membership Certificate	page 6
Message from Headquarters	page 10
Can You Write?	page 12
Honorary Life Membership	page 13
Our 20th Century Claim to Distinction	page 14
Some Hints on Reading the Bible	page 16
Education for Living	page 17
Letter	page 18
Brotherhood In Action	page 19
Boy Scouts	page 20
The Editor's Page	page 22
Fostering Appreciation	page 24

LUTHERAN MEN

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symbol of love supernal, which dispels our fears, quickens our faith, and
leads us to action, is

The Cross of Christ

by DAVID A. DAVY

ANCIENT NATIONS punished the criminals with death by crucifixion. The cross originally was a symbol of ignominy.

When Jesus was to be offered up as the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world," his accusers demanded that he be crucified. Jesus, dying for our sins, died the ignominious death of the cross.

At his resurrection and ascension, blessed by his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost, transformed the disciples into valiant heralds. Thus the sign of Christ, the sign of love supernal, became the supreme symbol of Christendom.

In the New Testament we have the stirring record of the beginnings of our Christian Church. On prophets and apostles and martyrs built, with Christ the cornerstone, the church has made remarkable progress through the centuries, because of the sanctifying, energizing and guiding presence of the Holy Spirit.

David A. Davy, of Allentown, Pa., rector, was pastor of Unity Lutheran Church, Chicago; the first superintendent of the ULCA Inner Mission Society in the Chicago area; chairman of the membership committee of the ULCA for many years.

The Decline in Our Time

The closing years of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century witnessed notable advances. Under the leadership of Dr. John R. Mott, now the honorary president of the World Council of Churches, there was launched the World Student Christian Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions, with its slogan, "The evangelization of the world in this generation." It seemed that the world-wide lordship of Jesus the Christ was about to be realized.

Then selfishness and self-indulgence waxed worse. World War I, with its awful aftermath, was perpetrated. Twenty-five years later, World War II hurled millions into an awful abyss of want and woe. Notwithstanding, after VJ Day and the establishment of the United Nations, we hoped that world-wide peace would be accomplished.

Wendell Willkie, circling the globe, visioned "One World." Our Christian slogan was "Christ for the world and the world for Christ."

Now, six years later, the United States is impotent. Man, continuing his age-long refusal to give God his

rightful place in heart and life, may be preparing for Armageddon.

The Cross Reassures Us

Dr. Paul C. Empie, executive director of our National Lutheran Council, providentially prepared and placed for world leadership through our Lutheran World Action, in his Denver address has issued a call which we all must heed:

"Keenly conscious that we wrestle not merely against flesh and blood, but against the rulers of the darkness of this world, as Lent progresses and Holy Thursday and Good Friday proceed, may Christians everywhere be roused, as never before, to put on the whole armour of God, and having done all, to stand."

May the Cross of Christ powerfully proclaim to the fearful that "God always wins", "Man's extremity is God's opportunity"; "Whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

Forward Under the Cross

At Cedar Rapids, Dr. Morris Wee, president of Carthage College, declared: "The fight has only started. Our only hope is in the advance of the Christian Church."

To the World Council of Churches and our Lutheran World Federation, on Nov. 29, 1950, was added the NCCCUSA. We rejoice that the president of our ULCA, Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, presided at the organization of this National Council of Christian Churches USA.

Manifestly, God is overruling for a

United Christendom, through which to accomplish his purposes for war-worn world.

Then, forward!

The Cross of Christ, the symbol of love supernal, dispels our fear, drives us to our knees in contrition, confession and reconsecration; impels us to go all out, cooperatively, bring Christ to the world and the world to Christ, and to do everything possible to put the Jesus way of life as outlined in Matthew 5, 6 and 23 into practical effect in all the world.

The Brotherhood's Task

Our ULCA Brotherhood symbol, derived from Martin Luther's coat of arms; our Brotherhood symbol of the Cross within the heart, calls all men and boys to go all out for Christ in his kingdom of love, peace, joy, and for the Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

According to the vital program adopted at Cedar Rapids, our ULCA Brotherhood is putting into effect operation plans that are most reassuring. This 32nd Lenten season for the Brotherhood promises to be the best by far in the history of our ULCA.

God is not dead! The Cross of Christ is not powerless! His kingdom advances!

"Crowns and thrones may perish,

Kingdoms rise and wane,

But the Church of Jesus

Constant will remain.

Gates of hell can never

'Gainst that Church prevail;

We have Christ's own promise,

And that cannot fail."

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Brethren:

Between the lines of all our news today is written these well-known words: *It's than you think, Brother!* But it still is not *too* late. The world has tried every eivable diplomatic maneuver, intrigue, and secular plan to obtain peace and se-y — all have failed, and failed miserably, while we, professed Christians, stood by, just hoping that this next plan will work out.

We must be more than *professed* Christians; we must be *confessed* Christians, ng to live and *act* according to our confession. We *must start now* to witness for Lord. We must make our Christian influence be felt among our friends and nbors. We must re-activate those Christians that have "slipped" and we must g to the Altar of God those who are not saved by His Blood.

With this activation on our part, then we can pray for God's help and it will be coming — but we *must* be willing to sacrifice to *help ourselves*.

Let's all try God's way to Peace and Security. It's the only way it can be had. it's later than you think, but not *too* late, with God on our side.

Let's go to work for God, renew our faith in Him and "Ye shall have Peace."

Yours in Christian Brotherhood,

Ralph J. Wolken



NLC News Photo

"QUICK"

hybrid between a bicycle and a heavy motorcycle, the "Quick", costing \$105, is a ificant aid in speeding the Gospel in Germany. Used by pastors whose parishes cover e rural areas, the "Quicks" were made available to preachers in Germany by the . eran World Federation.

NEWS

Proclamation

Trinity Brotherhood in Jackson, Miss., started the New Year with a proclamation:

"When Fielding Wright was Governor of Mississippi and Allen Thompson was Mayor of Jackson there went out a call to all the men of Trinity Lutheran Church of Today from Ray Borrer, president, Bob Wooden, vice president, Ernest Childers, secretary-treasurer, and Harry Roby, chaplain, that every man should enroll in the company of the Brotherhood.

"All the world is taxed enough, so this enrollment will not involve taxation, just free gifts.

"There is hatred and prejudice and conflict and selfishness in superabundance in many places, so this enrollment is not for the purpose of adding any of these to life.

"We offer a threefold purpose in this enrollment in the company of the Brotherhood: *Enlightenment* — as to Christian truth, the Christian way, the Church and its work; *Fellowship* — in regard to each other—to sit, talk, play and work together as brothers in the Household of God; *Activity* — encouragement to saw away day after day to promote the program of all that is good for our congregation, the Church, and society."

On April 9 the Brotherhood will feature a debate on the question, "Resolved that women have equal right

with men to serve in all capacities in the church."

Ladies' Night

The Philadelphia Conference Brotherhoods held their 8th annual Ladies' Night at McAllisters, 1811 Spaulding St., on Feb. 2. This event has grown steadily since its inception, now averages 450 in attendance.

American Lutheran Brotherhood

"Everyone Bring One In '51," will be a fine slogan for the Brotherhood convention which will be held in Washington, D.C., next October. Every member who has attended previous conventions in the past will want to share the Christian fellowship of the meeting with a friend. The committee in charge is planning to care for both men and women.

—ALC Brotherhood Newsletter

Dr. Walter A. Maier

The board of trustees of Carthage College, Carthage, Ill., has voted to present a posthumous citation to Walter A. Maier as the outstanding Lutheran of the year. According to Dr. Morris Wee, the newly installed president of the institution, the award will be given annually "to the outstanding Lutheran to be selected each year." Dr. Wee said, "I am happy that the first citation of this kind could be made to a man of such distinction and influence as Dr. Maier."

—Midwest Lutheran Brotherhood

A Million Pounds

more than a million pounds of clothing was collected in the Thanksgiving clothing appeal sponsored by Lutheran World Relief, as reported by Bernard A. Conlin, administrative secretary of LWR.

New NLC Headquarters

The National Lutheran Council moved from 231 Madison Avenue, New York, to its new headquarters at Madison Avenue, at 26th Street, near the northern boundary of Madison Square Park, on Jan. 11.

Grace Brotherhood

Grace Brotherhood, Allentown, Pa., elected these officers for this new year: President Nevin T. Hein Sr., Vice President Earl W. Krause, Recording Secretary Harry R. Witt, Financial Secretary Robert M. Deily, Assistant Secretary Ralph Marks, Treasurer Frank J. Erdman, Pianist Mrs. W. Glose.

Mission Statistics

Paul, Minn. (NLC) Twelve Lutheran bodies in North America sent 158 missionaries to mission stations in 15 countries during 1950, according to statistics compiled annually by Dr. Andrew S. Burgess, professor of missions at Luther Theological Seminary here.

This total was six more than the 152 missionaries assigned to service in 1949 but 33 less than the 191 in 1948, 89 less than the 247 in 1947, 50 less than the 308 in 1946. Of those who went out last year, 109 engaged upon their first mission assignment and 49 returned to their stations or furloughs in this country.

Paid Up in Advance

"I think I am correct in stating that once again our Emmanuel Brotherhood rang the bell as being the first group in Lancaster Conference (Pa.) to pay 1951 joint dues," reports William F. Kiehl. "Our 10th birthday is on Jan. 30, 1951 — at our February meeting we are aiming to have ten men of the congregation as guests and prospects for membership."

Will We Wait Too Long?

As Norman Thomas said, the people will never vote the Socialist ticket, but they will vote for Socialist measures when offered in attractive packages on the installment plan. For instance, cheap government money, low interest rates, government housing, state medicine, government electricity, federal benefits and unemployment insurance; government aid for education, subsidies for farm produce and shipping, government control of transportation, communication and countless other measures.

When the people finally see the direction in which all this is carrying us, will there yet be time to reverse the trend before a centralized Socialist police state takes over?

—*Christian Economics*

North Carolina

A delegation of nearly 500 delegates, pastors, and visitors attending the 28th annual convention of the North Carolina Brotherhood at St. John's, Salisbury, Tuesday, Nov. 21, opened a new era for the Loan and Gift Fund by voting unanimously to raise the Loan Fund ceiling from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

The convention delegation was informed and inspired by addresses featuring the one-day program by Ralph Wohlsen, ULCA Brotherhood president; Rev. Peter Dexnis, associate director of evangelism of the ULCA Board of Social Missions; H. E. Isenhour, member Mission Committee of Synod and of the ULCA Board of American Missions; Rev. Hugo Dressler, of Hickory; R. Brown McAllister, of Concord; and the Rev. F. W. Brandt of Charleston.

The officers for the coming year are President Harold F. Krauss of Winston-Salem, who was elected for a two-year term at the '49 convention, and the following members already in office were re-elected: Fred R. Smyre, of Hickory, vice president; Harold Black, of High Point, secretary; Paul Beatty, of Charlotte, assistant secretary; Guy M. Beaver, of Concord,

treasurer; Avery R. Rhyne, of Charlotte, loan and gift treasurer; and D. Fry, of Hickory, extension secretary.

John W. Earnhardt, of Salisbury and L. R. Fritz, of Goldsboro, were elected new members of the executive committee.

—Ernest L. Misenheimer

Helping the Pastor

Valuable help was given to the new pastor by the Brotherhood of Pleasant Hill Church in Beauregard La., of the Southern Baptist Convention. Before the pastor arrived on the field the Brotherhood set up a plan whereby different members of the group would take turns in visiting with him in the community, to help him get acquainted more quickly than he would have been able to do on his own.

Are You a Hymn-Writer?

"No doubt all colleges have an Alma Mater song, but what of a Hymn?" asks Dr. Gould Wickey, editor of *Educational News*, of the ULCA Board of Education. He urges that

college alumni who can write hymns do so for their Alma Mater. The following "Hymn to Miami University" was written by Colonel John Simpson, Miami '99, to be sung to the air of "God of Our Fathers" with a refrain before each stanza:

Hail Alma Mater, on thy wooded crest,
Gracious, serene, with strength and beauty blest,
We, thy proud children, raise our hymn to thee,
God hold thee close, through ages still to be.

Grant us thy Courage, steadfast through the years,
That we may conquer all unworthy fears.
Guide us to Wisdom, lead us toward the Light,
God hold thee close, all radiant in His might.

We sing thy praise with hearts and minds aglow,
Heeding thy will that all thy sons shall know
Justice and Truth, our spirits unafraid.
God hold thee close, in shining grace arrayed.

Amen.

Educate

Evangelize

Energize

The Brotherhood

of

The United Lutheran Church in America

HEREBY ENROLLS

An Honorary Life Member

PRESENTED BY _____

DATE _____

PRESIDENT U.L.C.A. BROTHERHOOD _____

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY _____

CITATION: _____

No. 101

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER CERTIFICATE

This certificate (8¼ x 5¼ inches) will be issued to Honorary Life Members — and in addition a membership card (3⅞ x 2¼ inches). Each Honorary Life Member will also receive a beautiful 9/16" gold-plated Emblem in five brilliant colors. These distinctive emblems have a red band super-imposed around the uniform Brotherhood emblem with inscription "Honorary Life Member — ULCA". These emblems come in two styles — a screw back for men and a safety clasp for women. See the January and February issues of **Lutheran Men** for detailed information concerning Honorary and In Memoriam memberships, or write to Brotherhood Headquarters, Market and New Streets, Bethlehem, Pa.

This is to certify that

has been made an

Honorary Life Member

of the Brotherhood of

The United Lutheran Church in America

and has been presented with certificate No.

President U.L.C.A. Brotherhood

Honorary Life Membership Secretary

Message From Headquarters

by EARLE W. BADER

The Monthly Meeting

THE MONTHLY meeting is the cornerstone of our Brotherhood program. Upon the type of program, and the ability and initiative of the officers will depend very largely the success of the monthly meetings, and ultimately determine the value of the Brotherhood to its membership and the congregation of which it is a part.

Our experience based on more than 30 years proves that each congregational Brotherhood will rise and fall in proportion to the interest and attendance at the monthly meetings.

Here are some of the factors that will contribute to a successful meeting:

A. The ten objectives of the ULCA Brotherhood are:

Evangelize

(1) Win the unsaved for Christ and bring back the lapsed members.

(2) Deepen and encourage the spiritual and intellectual life of men.

(3) Increase attendance at church services.

Educate

(4) Foster an intelligent and appreciative understanding of the whole work of the whole church.

Energize

(5) Promote Christian Fellowship — locally, nationally, and internationally.

(6) Encourage men of the various Lutheran bodies to draw closer together in understanding and cooperation.

(7) Stimulate the practice of stewardship of time, talents, and money.

(8) Strengthen the home so that it be a real school for Christian living.

(9) Promote a Christ-centered, experienced-centered and guided boys' work program including scouting.

(10) Encourage men as Christian citizens to exert an individual and collective Christian influence in the community, to participate actively in the affairs of government.

Many congregational Brotherhoods who wish to emphasize Christian Fellowship subdivide the ten objectives into a four-fold program of Worship, Education, Fellowship and Service.

B. The monthly program should be centered in the purpose of providing an interesting and profitable meeting for the Brotherhood members. This is their meeting, and officers should not monopolize time by lengthy speeches; but rather encourage the individual members to express their thoughts and ideas.

C. If possible, hold twelve stated meetings a year, and never postpone your monthly meeting unless it is absolutely necessary.

D. Open your meeting at the appointed time even if all of your members are not present.

E. No congregational Brotherhood meeting should last longer than one hour and 30 minutes, and the time should be carefully allocated. If

ole: opening devotions, 15 min-
topic presentation and discus-
30 minutes; business, 30 min-
special feature, 15 minutes. This
be followed by adjournment at
specified time, and then a planned
fellowship hour with refreshments, if
d.

The executive committee should
before each meeting to discuss
matters that may provoke unnec-
essary debate at the business session.
cannot expect to hold the interest
of most capable laymen, unless
business and fellowship programs
carefully planned beforehand.

The splendid *Lutheran Men*
magazine, with the members presenting
their own programs, have proved the
value of inviting "outside" speakers
to usually discuss secular topics.

The topic chairman and assist-
ant should be carefully selected for
the entire year and assignments made
at the January meeting. Be sure to
make the attractive and helpful
topic folders for your topic leaders
and their assistants. Our laymen do
not like the idea of being called on
to present the topic, read the Scrip-
ture lessons or give a prayer without
notice.

The standing committees—Mem-
bership, Ten Objectives, Evangelism,
Racial Persons, Lutheran World
Mission, Every Member Visitation,
Stewardship, Finance—should be given
adequate time for their reports. No com-
mittee should be permitted to report
progress "unless it has actually done
work.

The Brotherhood as an auxiliary

of the Church is expected to cooper-
ate with the ULCA boards and agen-
cies. This implies that at least one
item of church literature should be
distributed at each meeting. A well
informed Brotherhood is bound to
become an intelligent and cooperative
group, eager to promote the whole
program of the whole Church. Con-
sult the 1951 ULCA yearbook, pages
77-82, for the catalogue of "tracts
and pamphlets issued by the various
boards and agencies of the Church."
An order blank listing all of the
ULCA Brotherhood merchandise and
literature items will be mailed free of
charge by writing to the address given
in the postscript to this article.

K. Always keep in mind that the
Brotherhood's first responsibility is
to witness for Christ and his Kingdom
through the local congregation. The
promotion of Christian fellowship is
important but it should not overshad-
ow the real task of the Brotherhood.
P.S. The 1951 topic folders are priced
at 3 cents each. These folders includ-
ing literature and merchandise items
can be ordered from The ULCA
Brotherhood, Market and New
Streets, Bethlehem, Pa.

Do you know that:

The Lutheran Church was the first church
to send missionaries to the American In-
dians?

Child Philosophy

Sunday-school Teacher: "Can you tell
me who made you, Joseph?"

Joey: "God made part of me."

Teacher: "Why, what do you mean by
that?"

Joey: "He made me real little, and I
just grewed the rest myself."

—William L. Stidger, in
Planning Your Preaching

Can You Write?

Parish and Church School Board Writers' Workshop

CAN RELIGIOUS WRITING be interesting? As interesting to children as the forty million comic books which they avidly decipher? As educational as the elaborately illustrated public school texts?

For this kind of religious writing, the ULC Parish and Church School Board must depend largely upon non-professional writers in the church—lay people and pastors. Usually they can give only spare time to writing. Some have never written before.

Writers need help, the Parish Board decided. More talented lay people and pastors in the church need to be challenged by the ministry of the printed word.

One way to find such writers and to help new and old writers to do a better job, the Board thought, was to invite them to a workshop. At the workshop writers could meet the editors. They could criticize each other's manuscripts. They could practice writing and they could share ideas. Craftsmanship in educational methods and journalistic appeal could be developed.

In 1950, special funds were allocated for such a workshop, which was sponsored by the Parish Board at Gettysburg Seminary. Gratified by the success of the first workshop, the Board made it a regular item in its 1951 budget.

THE SECOND ANNUAL Writers' and Editors' Workshop will be held June 5-8 at Gettysburg Seminary.

Dean of the workshop will be G. K. Wiencke Jr., editor of *The Parish School*. On the program will be Peter Ferguson, Temple University English professor and author of *Journal through the Bible*; Harrison S. Ellis, former Union Seminary Department of Religious Education head and author of *Group Discussion in Religious Education*; Amos John Traver, Emma Divinity School professor and contributing editor to *The Christian Herald*, and former editor of *Lutheran Men*; Roland E. Wolseley, Syracuse University professor of journalism.

Before any writer can be enrolled, he or she must submit a "workshop manuscript." This is a complete day-school lesson in the age group of the writer's choice on a topic selected by the Parish Board. Board editors will study the manuscripts submitted to discover writers that seem to show the most promise—even if the manuscript shows evidences of inexperience. To preserve the intimate fellowship and individual attention of the workshop, enrollment will be limited to approximately fifty. And to make it possible for qualified writers from any part of the U.L.C.A. to attend the workshop, the Board will provide room and board, a large portion of travel expenses.

The first step for anyone interested in attending the workshop is to write for information and an application form. Age group preference should be indicated. Write to:

The Parish and Church School Board
Writers' Workshop
1228 Spruce Street, Phila. 7, Pa.

Honorary Life Membership

G. BEER

HERE HAVE been questions asked concerning the procedure in taking Honorary Life or In Memoriam Memberships.

The first step is to find out from Brotherhood president or pastor whether there is a congregational Honorary Life and In Memoriam secretary in your local congregational Brotherhood.

If there is such a secretary tell him your plans and receive three application blanks from him and fill these with the *correct* and *full* information and give them to the local Brotherhood treasurer with the proper fee. If there is no congregational Honorary Life and In Memoriam secretary, you may go directly to the congregational Brotherhood treasurer, who will receive your application blanks and fee.

Remember that the Honorary Life Memberships are \$10.00 and the In Memoriam Memberships are \$50.00.

If you have no Brotherhood in your congregation or your local Brotherhood is not as yet functioning, send the application blanks directly to William Shetlock, 22 South Fourth St., Coplay, Pa., and ask him for application blanks. When filled out correctly, you will again send them to him with your fee.

Follow the regular transmission of

funds and application blanks the congregational Brotherhood treasurer forwards the fees and three copies of the application blanks fully and correctly filled in to the conference Brotherhood treasurer as soon as a membership is taken out by a Brotherhood or an individual. The Honorary Life Membership secretary of the United Lutheran Church Brotherhood, William Shetlock, 22 South Fourth St., Coplay, Pa., will furnish the blanks to the local Honorary Life Membership secretaries.

If you have been appointed as an Honorary Life Membership secretary, please write to Mr. Shetlock informing him of your appointment and he will forward a number of application blanks to you. When you have used all of your blanks write to him for more.

The Brotherhood conference treasurer forwards two copies of the application, with the money, to the Synodical treasurer and keeps one copy for his records.

The Synodical treasurer sends one copy of the application blanks, with the money, to the treasurer of the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church, Ernest C. J. Haller, 1731 Lincoln Ave., Northampton, Pa., and keeps one copy for his records.

(continued on page 31)

Our 20th Century Claim to Distinction

by R. R. BELTER

WHEN WE passed the mile-stone called 1900, we were a rather satisfied people. We took matters as they came. We lived in a world which had as yet not learned to use many of the "natural resources." It was not, as now, a steam-heated and upholstered age. It was a matter of "here is the land, and now get busy and grub a living out of that sod." And then came the years of adapting. There was oil, we used it. We found quinine, and we thought we had really begun to make progress. But we had hardly begun to live, we were standing on the threshold of the creative years. This is the atomic and plastic age. PROGRESS was to be spelled with capital letters. As Bernard Iddings Bell said, and he must have said it with a tear: "In these days people are not concerned about the sweet 'by-and-by.' The sweet 'now-and-now' monopolizes their attention. Present comfort eclipses future salvation. From twilight-sleep birth to narcotized death, we insist upon ease." And the danger of it all is this, that a self-satisfied people never seek help from without. Prosperity cuts into the spiritual life of a nation and an individual. And so we ask: "Have we progressed, or have we retrogressed?" That, of course, is a matter of opinion.

If we look at the picture, how HAVE we progressed in the quarter of a century? In 1925 had marathon dances, in 1930 it had Tom Thumb golf, in 1935 it "scratch out the top name and save a dime", in 1940 it was zoot suits, in 1944 we heard Mairzy-Doats, in 1945 we saw bobby socks, in 1946 we most screamed when they played "Open the Door, Richard", in 1947 it was hot-rods, and in January 1950 we find some of the rich holding a meeting, called for the purpose of "setting up a time schedule for walking their respective dogs so that there'll be no dog fights at Sutton place." We finished a long time ago, some few years ago, and this was certainly to be a LAST year. No wonder that W. H. Houston says that "we live in an age which—subtracts faith and multiplies fear—which thinks that being lost in the woods is a new freedom—which demands education for its children, but declines discipline for itself—which follows religious fakers and follows political quacks but thinks itself too intelligent to accept the Word of God—which prepares for everything, even for a rainy day, but fails to prepare for eternity."

AND OVER against it all we shall have the "changeless Christ," and

his message of Redemption
th we are to preach. Like the
40 or 50, some men will still
k it to be foolishness, and to
ers it will be a stumbling-block.
ever, unto us it is a sufficiency
even eternity. Vance Havner
Journey to Faith"-Revell) is cor-

He said: "It might seem the
h of boredom to a modern
ngster fed up on trash and jad-
rom worn-out excitements, but
was happier BEFORE THE
EN AGE GAVE WAY TO THE
OF SO-WHAT." There has been
recurring lesson which history
brought to us, and that is that
soul will not thrive on anything
a message which assures of
GIVENESS OF SINS. The human
t must be at peace with God or
ads no peace. It might stray for
ntury or two,—that is—one gen-
ion might mislead, but eventual-
that heart comes back to ask
stions—and then repeats in es-
ce, the truth uttered by Augus-
at one time: "My soul knows no
until it rests in Thee."

General O. Bradley is also right:
"Humanity," he says, "is in danger
of being trapped in this world by its
moral adolescents. Our knowledge
of science has already outstripped
our capacity to control it. We have
too many men of science, too few
men of God. We have grasped the
mystery of the atom and rejected
the Sermon on the Mount. Man is
stumbling blindly through a spirit-
ual darkness while toying with the
precarious secrets of life and death.
The world has achieved brilliancy
without wisdom, power without
conscience. Ours is a world of nu-
clear giants and ethical infants. We
know more about war than we know
about peace, or about killing, than
we know about living. This is our
twentieth century claim to distinc-
tion and progress." Frankly — it
seems we have widened the gap
between God and man. Shall the
second half of this century leave an
entry which will be a better answer
to the plea of our Lord: "Come unto
Me?"

The Choice

By William Rose Benét

Fear said to Hate

"Come, let us build a State

Proscribing all save of one tribe or skin
From joy therein!"

But Spirit said to Love

"See a huge world, whereof

All are one body. Quickly, in every land,
Reach hand to hand!"

Alarmed for ambush, sullen before all light,
Crouch Fear and Hate within the caves of night,
While Spirit and Love, from no man fugitive,
Walk in the sun's free dower through which we live.

Some Hints on Reading the Bible

by HOWARD A. KUHNLE

Christians are constantly hearing the admonition to read the Bible — a proper counsel, to be sure, that should be heeded by all earnest Christians. Many people want to read the Bible more than they are doing, but find it hard to do so regularly.

Here are some suggestions that may be of help:

1. The Bible must be studied. This is not an age of seriousness. Newspapers, magazines, motion pictures, and now television come to you in such a simple manner that you may catch the whole substance of the matter at a single glance. Books are being simplified and picturized more and more, so that less and less concentration is needed in order to grasp them. There are also many picture Bibles, which are of great value, but how can one portray God and his teachings adequately in picture form? It remains true as ever that the Bible must be studied in order to be understood.

2. The Bible is a means of grace. It is constantly being stressed that the Bible, especially the King James version, is a model of literature — and so it is. The Bible contains important historical material. The Bible has much that is really secular counsel

and learning. These statements all true, but above all else, the Bible is a means of revealing God to us through Jesus Christ, for Christ is the center.

3. Know the Bible as a whole in order to understand the meaning of particular books and paragraphs. Christians should undertake to read large portions at one time. In our present literature, you read an address or a lecture or a long argument even a whole book at a single sitting. This is a good way to grasp the meaning of the Bible. You learn to understand the general temper and disposition of the Bible by lengthy contact with the life-giving Spirit of God speaking through the Word. This is to be prized even more than any fact or detached texts which you may store in your memory. God did not give the Bible as a mere storehouse of facts but as one complete revelation of himself to sinful man. Therefore, one should read whole books of the Bible at one time.

To be sure, one also ought to know particular sections. Single verses and short passages of the Bible should be prized chiefly with reference to

(continued on page 31)

EDUCATION FOR LIVING

EARL S. RUDISILL

Giving Parents A Lift

"PEOPLE WHO go to church are no better than those who don't." That is common gripe of a certain type of person. Unfortunately there's too much truth in the statement for comfort. Some studies have shown that children who go to Sunday school are more honest than those who don't attend. What is the matter?

Various factors hinder Christian education. For one thing, successful education for Christian faith and life hinges largely upon understanding and co-operation between home and church school. Long ago Bushnell asserted that the church cannot effectively teach religion without the co-operation of the home. This fact has been emphasized over and over again in educational and church groups through the years. Until there is better co-operation between home and church school, Christian education will continue to fall short of its goal, and living will move on a lower level than Christian ideals require.

The Parents' Quarterly

In order to help parents co-operate with the church and church school the *Parents' Quarterly* has been initiated. The first issue is for the January-March quarter of 1951. It is already in use in many homes and schools, and it is for the use of parents and teachers. It is a 32-page publication, with eleven pages devoted to general

helpfulness and twenty-one pages given to specific helps on the *Augsburg Uniform Series* (4-17 years) and *The Christian Growth Series* (4-17 years). The price is \$1.00 a year, or 25 cents a quarter; in groups of five or more to one address, 75 cents a year for each subscription.

Helps for Lesson Study and for Life

The help provided in the *Parents' Quarterly* is for the adults—the fathers and mothers. Use of the quarterly should improve the guidance given to children in both amount and quality. The new publication, of course, carries no magic—it must be used, and used intelligently, if Christian education is to be strengthened.

Two major purposes are involved in this project: (1) to give children immediate guidance and inspiration for worthy living and faith at home, at school, and everywhere else, and (2) to do preparatory work for the teaching-learning experience in Sunday school. The two, of course, combine their influence toward the making of strong Christians.

Human life is many-sided. The three major aspects are knowing, feeling, and behaving. To these may be added a number of other elements. If parents in the home can help their boys and girls better to understand the Bible and what Christian life

(continued on page 23)

Iron Mountain

Editor:

During the first week in December it was my privilege to spend three days among the Iron Mountain folk of Konnarock, Va., for the purpose of attending a three-day institute conducted by the committee on Southern Mountain work of the Board of American Missions, as a representative of the ULCA Brotherhood.

The invitation to attend this institute was extended by the Board of American Missions, primarily because of the Brotherhood's interest in the Iron Mountain School for Boys, located at Konnarock. The Brotherhood first became interested in the Iron Mountain School for Boys back in 1936, when it undertook to raise \$50,000 for the purpose of securing additional property and making necessary repairs at that time.

During my stay at Konnarock a

complete tour of the mission field was made, reviewing the work of the Iron Mountain School for Boys, the Konnarock Medical Center, the Konnarock Training School for Girls, and the dedication of the new St. Matthew's Church, which was recently constructed at a cost of \$30,000.

As you know, the Brotherhood is still interested in the work of the Iron Mountain School, and many Brotherhoods throughout the church continue to make regular contributions to the work.

The Board of American Missions is doing a great service to the mountain folk in this area. Dr. R. H. Gerberding, executive secretary, and Dr. Paul A. Kirsch, secretary for the Southern Mountain work, were both present at this institute.

Fred W. Konemann
Silver Spring, Md.

A Religion of Mercy

Dr. Edwin Moll described how a high Moslem officer of the Arab Legion came to him one day and, without blinking an eye, blurted, "I want to give you my children."

Astonished, Dr. Moll asked, "How many do you have?"

"About eight," the officer replied.

Further questioning him, Dr. Moll learned that the Arab's wife had become an invalid and that the officer's army pay was not enough to enable him to provide professional care for his children.

"You've got to take at least two boys in your orphanage at Bethlehem," the Arab pleaded.

"Of course, you realize your sons will become Christians if we take them in our orphanage?" Dr. Moll queried.

"That's what I want them to be," the Moslem officer replied, with sincerity in his voice, looking the Lutheran World Federation's Near East branch director full in the eyes, "because, for the first time in my life, I've seen the religion I want my children to have — a religion of justice and mercy!"

—James A. Ryberg

Confusion of Terms

We have confused the standards of "living high" with high standards of living. We have substituted merely "going about" for going about doing good.

—B. D. Tuhy

THE BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION

CHARLES F. BROBST

A Visitation Project

HAVE YOU ever been sick? Were you lonely and perhaps at times discouraged at your slow return to health? If you weren't, then be thankful but remember there are some persons in every congregation that are shut-ins. Some are aged and infirm, confined to their homes. Their friends are becoming fewer with the years. Others are sick temporarily, often neglected. Why not do unto others as you would have them do unto you? Visit them.

The best friends any shut-ins should have are the members of the Christian Church. But how little we often show friendship. Even the members of the church council, who promise in the installation service to assist the pastor in the visitation of the sick, so often fail in their responsibilities in this direction.

Why not make this a project of the Brotherhood? The visitors would be delighted at the expressed joy by those who are visited. Here is how it can be done.

Get the names of aged, infirm, sick from the pastor. The men probably add to his list. Include the unchurched.

Distribute the names among the members of the Brotherhood. Let the visits be made until the next meeting when reports are given.

Have a card for each one to be visited. Each month give the card to

a different man.

4. The visitation could be made the evening of the Brotherhood Meeting. After the devotional service the men can make one visit and return at a definite time (about a half hour) and report, and continue the Brotherhood program.

5. Men might make their visits in teams of two.

6. A piece of devotional literature like *Light for Today*, *Message for the Day* could be provided for the visitors to be given the shut-in. A copy of *Lutheran Men* would be appreciated by the men.

7. If your Sunday school has no home department the Brotherhood could volunteer to start one. The Sunday-school lessons and literature provided by the Parish and Church School Board could be delivered during the visitation.

8. A wire or tape recorder might be used to bring to the shut-ins the worship service or other church meetings. The Brotherhood could purchase the recorder.

9. Where faithful members are permanently confined to their homes a service for them would be appreciated. A men's quartet or chorus could sing. One man can read the Scripture, another pray, and a third give a short, appropriate message. Try it. You'll be surprised at the good you will do to them and to yourselves.

Boy Scouts

by GEORGE A. EICHLER

A RETREAT for scouters to study the part scouting should play in the church is recommended to synodical Brotherhoods. There are still many scouters who do not fully understand how the *Pro Deo et Patria* award integrates the work of the church and scouting in the training of our boys. Much needs to be done to convince Brotherhood men that scouting is really important work, and that preparing to do it well is imperative.

The best time to have a retreat is in the summer at an out of the way place where men can gather for the special purpose of studying the scouting program as it relates to the church. Scouters, fathers of scouts, pastors and other men interested in boys should be invited to attend.

Synodical scout directors might well take the initiative in planning a retreat. A well prepared program including round table discussions, addresses, scout demonstrations, and religious services would deepen the con-

viction of need for scouting in church and would also interest men to take part in the promotion of the scouting program.

The social advantages of such a treat should not be underestimated. Meetings of men under the auspices of scouting take on a friendly and formal atmosphere not present in other meetings. Men will learn to know each other better under the influence of the scouting spirit and will be better scouters, better Brotherhood men and better churchmen.

Why not give consideration to a scout retreat for this summer? Now is the time to plan for it. We will be glad to make more detailed suggestions to any groups interested. Let us know about your plans.

A GOOD SCOUT

Reads His Bible Daily

Prays Every Day

Attends Church Regularly

Serves God and Country Faithfully

The Only Tomorrow

By Max Ehrlich

Author, *The Big Eye*

I can't think of Brotherhood as just a word. It is more than just a good intention sermon from the pulpit, or a politician's cliché. It is a way of life, life itself, and it goes as deep into a man as his own heart. It is the only real proof that we have come out of the jungle, into the sun.

Brotherhood, as I see it, is one big thing, and a thousand little things. Brotherhood is color-blind; it is a gate through a fence between neighbors; it is man's humanity to man. I believe in it. I believe that without a feeling of brotherhood for my fellow man I am morally and spiritually bankrupt. And I know that it is our last great chance for survival, the only antidote to the Atom, the only barrier to the blast of the Bomb, the only tomorrow.

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The Editor's Page

The Power of the Resurrection

WHAT IS the power of the resurrection? Is it a power in man, or is it the power of God?

Naturally, the power of God, says somebody. Why raise the question in the first place?

Because you do not have to speak with many Christians before you realize that some do not really think the resurrection is exclusively dependent upon the power of God — if they believe in a literal resurrection at all.

Some misconceptions concerning the resurrection are the notions that man in himself is immortal and will live on inevitably beyond death, and that Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of the inevitable resurrection of all good men. There is also the notion that the soul of man is an immortal substance, or by virtue of decency and good intentions will accumulate enough immortality to project itself beyond death.

SOME PERSONS are rationalists. Rationalistic explanations of the resurrection are attempts to bring a divine act down to a human level of comprehension, and they usually end up by having human thought and power contribute to that act. The rationalist thinks that if something is possible at all, it must be comprehensible. So he sits down and thinks, How can these things be? and comes to the conclusion that certain things can be true

only if the proper amendments and adjustments are made to the originally revealed act of God.

How human pride, fear, and lack of complete trust in God are revealed. And how this is extremely illustrated in the person who not only thinks he must achieve his own immortality of the soul but must also facilitate the resurrection by trying to preserve the corpse until judgment day!

THE RESURRECTION of Christ, seen through the eyes of St. Paul, was a *unique victory*, uniquely won. It was a *special creative act of God* that raised up Jesus from the dead — not an inevitable occurrence in the normal course of events.

God raises men to life again according to his own free, sovereign will, and good pleasure.

Paul speaks: "If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." "God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us *by his own power*." "Because we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that *we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raises the dead . . .*"

IN LIBERAL theological circles and in more orthodox places than or

Open Secrets

The Secret of God. By Robert D. Hershey. Muhlenberg Press. 162 pages. \$1.75.

old suspect, this has been questioned with vigor. Many persons have practically discarded the resurrection of the body in favor of the immortality of the soul. But today, even among the liberal theologians, there is a swing back toward the true idea of the resurrection, to the idea that the soul needs a body for the fullest expression of its life, and not that it must ward the body.

There has been a resurrection of part of the Apostles' Creed which says, I believe in "the resurrection of the body."

TO HAVE faith in God means to have less confidence in our favorite theories, in this matter of the resurrection. By our own power we cannot attain to the resurrection. We cannot by taking thought add one cubit to our stature, much less add eternity to our finite existence.

We must trust in God's power alone. We would be idolaters if we admitted any thought or power of our own to become ingredients in our life for the future.

When we say that only through the creative power of God can there be life for us, let us mean just that. This does not detract from God's wisdom, power, or mercy by supposing that man can contribute to the glory of the resurrection.

At Easter we celebrate God's creative act, the resurrection of Christ. Our hope that through Christ we may live, by the will and act of God alone.

Behind the mists of commonplace thinking concerning the fundamentals of faith are the basic, fundamental, ultimate clues to a more penetrating insight into the hearts of God and man, and their relationships to each other. This book does not propound inscrutable mysteries; it refreshingly reveals the secrets of God, sin, grace, redemption, holiness, church, love, forgiveness.

Interestingly written, this volume sweeps you along, with no dull moments, from beginning to end. Good illustrations, used judiciously, hit the spot.

The motive of the book — "He lives" — makes this work most suitable for the Lenten and Easter seasons, for pastors and laymen.

After reading the book, you will know the secret of life, for you will have been taken into the heart of God and man.

(continued from page 17)

means, to feel the right way about religion and life, and to behave in a Christlike way, they will be opening the way for the church school teachers to carry the good work further, which in turn will open to parents additional opportunities.

Every father and mother ought to be reached with the *Parents' Quarterly*.

Fostering Appreciation

by ARTHUR H. GETZ

Become better acquainted with the work of the church



Author: Dr. Getz is an editor of The Parish and Church School Board of The United Lutheran Church in America, in charge of leadership education texts, adult electives, method pamphlets, and various other assignments. From 1938 to 1947 he was responsible for the Brotherhood topics of The United Lutheran Church, many years writing all the topics himself. From 1948 to the present he has served on the editorial committee responsible for the intersynodical uniform Brotherhood topics.

Pastor Getz is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and the Philadelphia Theological Seminary. He did post-graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania, and received his doctor's degree from his alma mater, Muhlenberg. He served in the active pastorate for seventeen years, and since 1938 has been on the staff of The Parish and Church School Board, first as a field secretary, and now as an editor.

THERE ARE many branches of the Lutheran Church, but there is only *one Lutheran Church*. Beneath our apparent diversity and divisions of church government, language, and forms of devotion, there is a real unity. All Lutheran groups in America confess a common faith and subscribe to the Augsburg Confession and Luther's Small Catechism. Basically we are in agreement. We should therefore strive earnestly to break down those remaining barriers of race and tongue which separated us in our beginnings. We need to grow in our mutual appreciation of one another so the day may be hastened when we will be one in external organization as well as in inner unity.

There is always danger that the individual Christian will not receive the inspiration which might come to him from realizing that he is part of a mighty, world-wide church. Unimportant as he may seem in his own eyes

Dr. Getz wrote this topic to meet an emergency. The assignment had been placed in capable hands, but just before the topic was to go to press Dr. Getz received word that the intended writer had been stricken with virus pneumonia. There was insufficient time to make a reassignment, so the editorial committee had to write the topic himself.

is an integral part of the forces that are helping to promote Christ's kingdom.

What Is the Church?

The church consists of people. Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them," said Jesus. The church therefore is a group of people who are living under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The church is fundamentally a congregation, such as the one to which we belong. Everything that we call *the church* is superstructure. The church consists of people. It is a congregation.

My Congregation

The church may be spoken of as a world-wide congregation of believers in Jesus Christ, who accept him as Lord and Saviour, and are filled with the Holy Spirit. But this world-wide congregation has its local expression, which we call "my congregation." All the work which has been committed to Christ's world-wide church has also been committed to this local congregation. It therefore has a threefold task: education, evangelism, and service of love.

In order to carry out its threefold task the congregation establishes many agencies — Sunday schools, weekday schools, vacation church schools, catechetical classes, Luther Leagues, Brotherhoods, missionary societies, choirs, and other groups. It is impossible sharply to departmentalize the church's tasks and say, "Here is a group that carries on the work of education, and here is a group that carries on the work of evangelism, and here is a group that carries on the work of serving love." While it is convenient to speak of these three phases of the church's task, in reality the church has one great task, namely, "to make the Gospel of Jesus Christ effective in all of life." But to achieve this goal the local congregation requires careful organization. It must have a pastor, a church council, schools, auxiliaries and organizations, and a great variety of workers with many and varying talents.

Synods or Districts

My congregation's obligations are not confined to the community in which it happens to exist. My congregation

Editorial Committee: Arthur H. Getz, chairman, Charles E. Johnson, C. Oscar Leonard, E. V. Morton, Carl E. Schock.

Principle 1: To help members of the brotherhood come better acquainted with the work of the church at large as it is carried on by conventions, boards, and agencies.

To lead members of the brotherhood to appreciation of the fact that the work which is carried on by the church at large is really the work committed by Christ to every individual who is his follower.

To discover ways in which members of the brotherhood, individually and collectively, participate more wholeheartedly in the whole work of the whole church.

Worship

Hymn: "Zion Stands with Hills Surrounded"—No. 200 C.S.B., or No. 133 P.S.H.

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-16

Free Prayer

Special Music

Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"—No. 195 C.S.B., or No. 134 P.S.H.

Topic

Hymn: "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow"—No. 201 C.S.B., or No. 137 P.S.H.

Prayer, including the Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Business

Fellowship and Refreshments

gation has a world-wide task to perform. The Saviour said, "Go ye into all the world." But my congregation cannot do its world-wide task alone. As it tries to carry out the command given by the Lord it finds very soon that it needs trained pastors and teachers, Bibles, catechisms, hymns, books, magazines, and many other things. It cannot supply all the things it needs for the local program, much less the things needed for its world-wide task. It therefore unites with other congregations to form a synod or district, in order that through the pooling of resources and strengths the needs of all may be met.

The work of the synod or district, like that of the local congregation, is to make the Gospel of Jesus Christ effective in all of life. That means it must carry on a program of education, evangelism, and serving love. To discharge the tasks assigned to it by local congregations the synod or district then establishes colleges and theological seminaries, orphanages and old folks' homes, hospitals and settlement houses. It trains ministers and teachers; it supports home, foreign, and inner mission enterprises; it fosters public and private worship; it solicits and dispenses funds for the world-wide task of promoting the kingdom of Christ. (Call for a report on assignment 1, made at the March meeting. Cf. "A World Task.")

The National Body

Even synods or districts, large as some of them are, find it impossible efficiently to carry on the tasks assigned to them. They therefore unite

into national bodies, such as The American Lutheran Church, The Augustana Lutheran Church, The United Lutheran Church and others. The task of these national bodies also is to carry on the threefold function of education, evangelism, and serving love.

Education or *teaching* embraces all the activities of the church as it teaches believers through the Word of God and nurtures them through worship. It includes the work of many congregational agencies — Sunday schools and other schools, Brotherhood, Luther League, missionary societies, leadership classes, choirs, etc. It also includes the tasks of many church-wide agencies, such as colleges, seminaries, summer schools and camps, the national organizations of auxiliaries, etc. This work of Christian education affects members of every age group from the youngest to the oldest.

The work of *evangelism* covers the proclamation of the gospel to the unchurched at home and abroad. This is basically the work of soul winning, and education is basically the work of soul nurturing.

Serving love or *mercy* includes all that the church does in its ministry to the needy out of love for Christ. It covers the work in hospitals, homes for the orphans and aged, work among the unfortunate and fallen. It aims to do more than alleviate suffering. It tries to lead men to Christ. (Call for a report on assignment 2 made at the March meeting.)

Boards and Agencies

Sight should not be lost of the way

onal bodies come into existence. Groups of individuals form congregations in order that they may be nurtured in Christian faith and life and in order that they may carry out Christ's commands. These congregations unite into synods or districts because they find that the individual congregation cannot adequately discharge its duty. Synods unite to form national bodies because even synods cannot do all the tasks which need to be done.

The national body meets at stated times to review the whole work of the church and to lay plans for the future. These conventions of the national body are composed of official delegates — the representatives of all the members of every congregation. They are the servants of the congregations responsible to them. Their decisions are in reality the decisions of the congregations and the individuals which comprise the congregations.

But national bodies cannot remain in continuous session. There is much work to be done between meetings of convention. The national bodies therefore function through departmental boards and committees. The organizational setup of the various Lutheran national bodies varies somewhat, but all of them have agencies responsible for such tasks as home missions, foreign missions, education, publication, deaconess work, etc. The organizational arrangement of each national body can readily be discovered by studying the year book or the minutes of the last session. These various boards and committees carefully

study the assignments made to them by the national body, lay plans for the work that must be done, and then promote the cause committed to their care.

As an example of the way in which boards of the church work we might take the Board of Parish Education. This board provides a vast array of literature to help congregations carry on their educational task—literature for use in Sunday school, weekday school, vacation church school, hymnals, educational magazines, leadership texts, and much other literature. This board also assists congregations in attaining constant improvement in their educational work. To this end it places a staff of specialists at the service of the church to confer with educational workers of the local congregation. It also gives guidance to camps and summer schools, leadership schools and classes, educational conferences and institutes, and performs many other services.

In addition to working through boards and agencies each national body also works through official *auxiliaries*, such as the Women's Missionary Society, the Luther League, and the Brotherhood. These auxiliaries supplement the whole program of the church in special areas. For instance, the Brotherhood stimulates and educates the men of the church to a larger and more consecrated service in the kingdom of God. Its Ten Objectives are grouped under the headings, "Evangelize, Educate, Energize" — the three primary tasks of the church, for in this connection "energize" is

only another term for "serving love."
(Call for assignment 3, made at the
March meeting. Cf. "A World Task.")

The Church's Work, My Work

The thought that should be uppermost in our minds in connection with this study of the church's work is that *the whole task committed to the church has also been committed to me*. It was to every individual follower that Christ gave the great commission to make disciples unto the uttermost ends of the earth. But it is evident that the individual Christian cannot fulfill his calling alone. The very nature of his task demands co-operation with other believers. He is part of a great company that must carry out the assignment in unity. If a football team is to win its game it is necessary for members of the team to work together. What a tragic result would ensue if each member of the team would try to play independently of the others! What a confusion of sound would result if each member of an orchestra would select his own score to play at a concert, without reference to what other members of the orchestra might play!

Synods and national bodies of the church have been brought into existence to help individual Christians make an effective contribution toward the spreading of Christ's kingdom. We dare not attempt to be spectators along the sidelines. We must get into the midst of the fray, for the work of the church at large is really the work committed by Christ to every individual who is his follower.

What Can We Do?

1. Become acquainted with the institutions sponsored by our synod district, and take steps actively to support them by personal service as well as financial gifts.
2. Personally support the work of our national church body through generous gifts, and encourage others to do likewise.
3. Remember some of the institutions and agencies of the church as our wills.
4. Serve on one of the boards of the church or on a board of one of the church's agencies.
5. Study the latest year book of the official minutes of the national body to which our congregation belongs in order to become more intimately acquainted with its organization and its aims.
6. Attend a meeting of our synod or district, and a meeting of our national church body.
7. Pray for the blessings of God on the work of the church at large.

Questions for Discussion

1. In what sense do we have Lutheran unity in spite of diversity of organization?
2. Is the church basically an organization or a "congregation of believers"?
3. What is the threefold task of the congregation? How do these three tasks overlap?
4. Why is it necessary to have synods or districts? What is their work?
5. Why must we have national church bodies? What is their work? How do they function?

What is the relationship of the individual Christian to the national church body? How does the national church body serve the individual Christian?

What are some of the things we do, individually and/or collectively, to participate whole-heartedly in the whole work of the whole church?

A Look at Ourselves

Assignment for the May Meeting

Probably every brotherhood does some-thing to promote fellowship. But there is a danger that the program will in time become a mere ministry only to the members of the organization. There is also danger that the program will degenerate into mere recreation or mere social events. What is really at stake by a program of Christian fellowship? Can it be promoted?

In preparation for the May meeting, at which we will discuss "Promoting Christian Fellowship," all members of the brotherhood should be asked to list those fellowship activities sponsored by the brotherhood which they enjoyed most.

Another interesting innovation for the May meeting would be to arrange to project the film-pictures dealing with the Amsterdam story.

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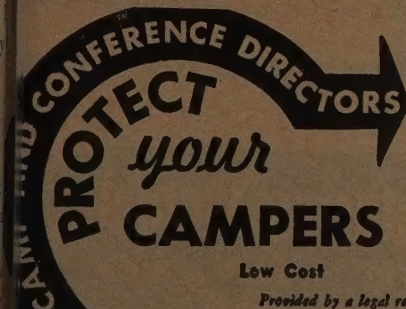
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Dry

A newcomer traveling through the Texas Panhandle got into conversation with an old settler and his son at a roadside stand. "Looks as though we might have rain," observed the visitor.

"Well, I hope so," said the native; "not so much for myself as for my little boy here. I've seen it rain."



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72nd Annual Report

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LIABILITIES	40,792,
TOTAL SURPLUS	2,608,
1950 Increase Insurance in Force	22,209,
Increase in Assets	4,547,
Paid to Policyholders and Beneficiaries	1,993,
Reserve for 1951 Dividends	960,
Interest Earned on Investments in 1950	3.28%

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(continued from page 13)

At the close of each quarter every member will list the memberships he has received and send a copy of the list to the secretary on his behalf, be it local, conference, synodical or United Lutheran Church.

All Honorary Life and In Memoriam certificates, lapel buttons and membership cards will be issued at the Bethlehem office after the United Lutheran Church Brotherhood member has received the application and fees for them.

Help us, O Lord, Jesus Christ, to help our loved ones; leaders, friends and relatives; while they are in the flesh, rather than wait until their souls have passed away, so they may now enjoy our esteem and affection for them.

† † †

(continued from page 16)

One of which they are a part. Of course, the microscopic examination of Scripture has its place in the eyes of scholars, especially when particular words focus or bring to a head an entire argument.

Christian people must learn to look in the Scriptures. You must take the Bible the key in deciphering your own life, and find in your life illustrations of its power and meaning. This may be hard, but in the end, analysis, it is the real test of the value of the Bible to the Christian individual.

Keeping these few ideas in mind, understanding and use of the Bible may indeed, be the key to a better life.

CLIPPING THE WINGS OF FEAR

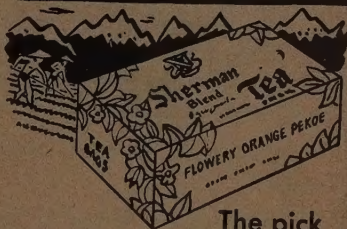
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"STOP!?"

Teacher: "Don't you know that punctuation means that you must pause?"

Willie: "Of course I do. An auto driver punctuated his tire in front of our house Sunday and he paused for half an hour."

The word **stop** was punctuated generously, to catch your attention. It was designated to make you pause and look close. The little joke was also intended to slow you down for 10 seconds. All of which was done to get you to read down to this period.

(In the business of writing, this is known as "hooking the reader.")

Now we know that all good Brotherhood men do not have to be "hooked" or "punctuated" to make them pause to read **Lutheran Men**. However, sometimes, busy men (and Brotherhood men always do the most work for the church) forget about their subscriptions to **Lutheran Men**. So please make use of this convenient blank below.

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